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WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT

1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

In Office 1960 - 1961:

Chairman of the Council  
Councillor Group Captain J.H. Dand

Chairman of the Health Committee  
Councillor Miss M.A. Powell

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Clerk and Chief Financial Officer  
F. Tomlinson, F.I.M.T.A., A.R.V.A.

Chief Public Health Inspector  
F.W.I. Whitehouse, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Engineer and Surveyor  
B.E. Hardy, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Mun.E.



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Public Health Department, Gate Lodge, The Castle,  
Whitstable

Telephone : Whitstable 2233

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1959 which, together with that of the Chief Public Health Inspector's, will be forwarded to the Ministry in accordance with statutory requirements.

There are many ways in which we are fortunate in Whitstable. Medically our local arrangements would be hard to improve. The family doctors working from three group surgeries are all in a friendly partnership. The Whitstable and Tankerton Hospital is served by these same doctors with Specialists on call and visiting from the main Hospital centre in Canterbury. The St. Heliers maternity unit serves essential in-patient midwifery backed by the Canterbury unit for complicated cases. The local County Ambulance Station provides the linkage for all these and the local health authority clinics are staffed by the local family doctors. The District Officer who has become such a focal point in the County health services has his office here. In fact were it not for your keen interest and willingness to listen to advice given on public health affairs and for the happy co-operation of all the officers of the Council I would feel a bit of an interloper as one who does not live in the town.

This local town spirit is strong and beneficial in many spheres. The W.V.S. Centre is a boon and a blessing to the elderly. The Churches play their part also and a visit to the All Saints Old People's Club is a real refreshment. Young wives groups are active and youth organisations strive forward. The Council's activities and services do not go unheeded. The cry of the snipe on the Seasalter flats is bettered by the sniper in the local press, and the birds go all atwitter. There cannot be a town in this country which is without some improvement waiting to be done and Whitstable is no exception. It is perhaps more restless about it, but it is a restlessness with a reckoning and no local authority can ignore the financial implications of its energy.

The detail to follow will, I hope, show that the Public Health Department in line with all the other Council departments, does the job in hand to the best of its ability. The mutual respect reciprocated by Council Officers and Council Members in their work together for the common weal in Whitstable is the healthy atmosphere in which progress grows best.

#### THE LIVING COMMUNITY

The population rose another 250 to 17,670 by mid 1959. Births numbered 237; 132 of them boys. Thus we had a birth rate uncorrected of 13.4 per 1,000 population. The area of the town including back land is 7,640 acres.





# THE PASSING COMMUNITY

The deaths rose to 343 of whom 171 were males and 172 females. Two of these deaths were infants under one year of age. One of the infant deaths was under one week old. Adding to this the 3 stillbirths the perinatal mortality of 4 in 240 live and stillbirths or 16.66 per thousand reflects good maternal care. The general death rate uncorrected was 19.4.

Statistical tables follow and give more detailed information:-

<u>STATISTICS</u>		<u>(Vital and Morbid)</u>		<u>1959</u>			
Population Mid 1959		-	17,670				England & Wales
Live Births	=	237	Male	132	Female	105	
Live Births rate per 1,000 population			...	...	...	13.4	16.5
Still Births	=	240					
Infant deaths	=	2					
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births-total						8.4	22.0
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births-legitimate						8.9	
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births-illegitimate						nil	
Neonatal Mortality rate (first 4 wks) per 1,000 live births						4.2	
Illegitimate live births			...	...	...	11	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births						4.6	
Maternal deaths (including abortion)						nil	
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births						nil	
Deaths all causes	=	343	Male	171	Female	172	
Deaths under 1 year	=	2	Male	2	Female	-	
(1 under 1 week)							
Death rate per 1,000 population			...	...	...	19.4	11.6
Deaths from Cancer of Lung & Bronchus:-							
Total	14.	Male	12.	Female	2.		

These rates are influenced by the distribution of our population in the age groups and some weighting towards the older age groups.

## CORRECTED STATISTICS

The birth-rate and death rate must be corrected for population age grouping and the figures are thus modified as follows:-

						England & Wales
Uncorrected birth rate	=	13.4	per	1,000		
Corrected	=	17	per	1,000		16.5
Uncorrected Death rate	=	19.4	per	1,000		
Corrected	=	12.2	per	1,000		11.6



CAUSES OF ALL DEATHS

CAUSE	1958	1959
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	4
" " Lung, Bronchus	14	14
" " Breast	7	3
" " Uterus	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	30	35
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	4	2
Diabetes	1	3
Vasc: Lesions of Nervous System	44	47
Coronary Disease, Angina	53	61
Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	11
Other Heart Diseases	56	64
Other Circulatory Disease	27	24
Influenza	3	3
Pneumonia	11	12
Bronchitis	12	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	2
Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum	8	2
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	-	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-
Congenital Malformation	-	1
Other defined or ill defined diseases	16	23
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1
Other Accidents	4	9
Suicide	2	1





INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Quarters of year				By Age Groups						Totals	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	0-4	5-9	10-14	15+	65+	Un-known	1959	1958
Scarlet Fever	12	9	1	12	5	23	2	4	-	-	34	9
Measles	160	67	5	-	93	128	8	1	-	2	232	11
Whooping Cough	4	4	1	3	6	6	-	-	-	-	12	14
Pneumonia	2	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	2	-	5	10
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	1
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS	Quarters				Age Groups				Totals	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	15-24	45-64	65+	Un-known	1959	1958
Respiratory Female	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	2
Other forms Male	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-

Number on T.B. Register - 31st December 1959  
(1958 figures in parenthesis)

Respiratory : Male 76 (88) Female 46 (56)  
Other Forms : Male 12 (11) Female 22 (22)



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

It was a measles year, concentrated in the Spring of the year. Scarlet Fever showed a marked increase in lent and in the Autumn. There were no notifications of food poisoning but one small outbreak occurred. There was no cases of Acute poliomyelitis, and a happy absence of dysentery.

### Measles:

The two yearly incidence of this disease happened as expected.

### Food Poisoning:

A small group of 5 cases of illness with the nature of staphylococcal food poisoning came to light through a complaint from a customer of a shop where sliced chopped pork had been purchased. Some of the food eaten showed the presence of staphylococcus aureus of a phage grouping associated with food poisoning. All the cases had eaten this article of food, purchased on the same day. Samples of similar tins of the product were free from infection and the staff of the shop were in the clear. Circumstantial evidence tended to suggest contamination of one tin of the product, but there was no way of telling whether this contamination was in manufacture or in slicing and serving. The opportunity was taken to check shop methods and to advice on improvements. None of the cases were notified as food poisoning.

### Scarlet Fever:

This is such a mild disease that we are inclined to treat it lightly, but this has a dangerous potential at all times if the type of streptococcus responsible for the illness changes to one of the rheumatic or nephritic variety. Thirty-four cases were notified in the year. Only 4 of these cases went to the Isolation Hospital. In three cases special precautions had to be taken with contacts by reason of their occupation.

The family doctors sent a few throat swabs for sample typing from severe tonsillitis cases during April and types HS.5/27/44 and type 1 were shown to be present at that time.





Towards the end of November an outbreak of streptococcal infection occurred in a childrens home. The children in the Home numbered 22 with 3 resident staff and 3 daily staff. Two children were isolated and were notified as scarlet fever, onset 26th November. On 28th November the home was visited and all children swabbed by the doctor in attendance. Intra-nasal insufflation of sulpha thiazole powder to all in the home was started immediately following the swabbing, without waiting for the results and sick children were transferred to the Isolation Hospital when it was found that the trained nurse on the staff was infected with haemolytic streptococci. Oral penicillin was given to all children found positive, in addition to the sulpha thiazole insufflation to all.

The children in the home were kept away from Sunday School and school but movement out of doors was otherwise encouraged. Disinfection of day rooms and dormitories was carried out by formulin spray on 4 occasions throughout the outbreak.

On receipt of the results of the first swabbing survey the children were divided into a positive group (11 children) and a negative group. Re-swabbing on 6th December showed only 2 of the children still positive out of the 17 children and 6 staff; 5 children having gone to hospital and 1 member of staff excluded.

The typing of the positive cases showed A type 4 as the infecter of cases requiring hospital treatment and of a brother of one of these cases who had been having nose drops for a chronic catarrh. Two positives were Group C and of the four other positives the nurse was A type 3, one A type 12 and two A type 5/27/44. The A type 12 case was carefully followed up for evidence of kidney involvement as this is the nephritic variety. The prevalence of haemolytic streptococci in any closed community during winter makes such an outbreak as difficult to predict as the November Handicap and one has to proceed on the assumption that all positives are relevant until proved otherwise. Some such mass therapy as that used here, and repeated disinfection of the environment seems a reasonable attack on the problem.

### Tuberculosis

There was no visit by the Mass Radiography Unit during the year. Only two cases were notified, one pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.





IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

(County Health Service)

During 1959 the following immunisation work was carried out by the General Medical practitioners or by the County Health Department staff:-

			No. up to <u>Aged 2 yrs.</u>
Diphtheria Immunisation:-			
Primary immunisation	=	155	134
Re-inforcing "	=	68	-
Whooping Cough Inoculation	=	203	183
Smallpox Vaccination:-			
Primary	=	152	135
Revaccination	=	16	-
Poliomyelitis:-			
		<u>2 injections</u>	<u>3 injections</u>
Up to age 15	=	825	2,122
Over age 15	=	603	303
Up to age 2 years	=	263	234

It will be seen that more children are being protected against whooping cough than against diphtheria. Mothers show a dangerous apathy to protecting their children against diphtheria and smallpox, both of which diseases could come into the district tomorrow if an infected person arrived from abroad or from some of the towns further north or in the west country where diphtheria still occurs. The level of protection against these diseases remains only at the 50% or under mark.



## ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

While some of the public health services are not under the direction or management of the public health department, we cannot fail to be involved in relevant complaints in the investigation of the consequences of failure, or in reviewing a need for improvements. If a five day week is applied to these public services it will not stop complaints from arising on a Saturday or Sunday, nor will it keep them from homing on the Medical Officer of Health or Chief Public Health Inspector, whose consciences are still awake when the offices are closed. We had the usual number of doves alighting on our Ararats.

## SEWERS AND SEWERAGE

The heavy clay soil can cause cesspool problems by destroying the watertightness of the upper brickwork and thus allowing access for ground-water. The Agricultural Workers' cottages at Pye Alley showed cesspool failures that called for special action in conjunction with the Surveyor.

Surface drainage in the Chestfield area caused trouble and the Council continues its long term plan to drain off rainfall from the area. The problem is one of moving water from the whole area and not just from one point to another.

Ditches are handy places for the disposal of a great variety of rubbish, as is found when complaints of overgrowth, smell or mosquitoes arise, and the Gorrell Stream caused trouble because of this and had to be dealt with in the mid-Summer.

A puzzling complaint in the backlands of Alexandra Road required a thorough exploration to explain its nature. It was found to have arisen from the disturbance of an old system of land drainage by overgrowth and subsequent clearance. The sewer nearby was dragged to ensure that it was not responsible and proved to be free from blame.

## HOUSING

The Chief Public Health Inspector deals with this subject in his report. Progress was made in dealing with slum property included in the survey. The circumstances of the occupants cannot be ignored in considering such properties and in one group of these properties of which two were owner-occupied the visiting committee had a very difficult decision to make. A form of surveillance was decided.





## OTHER MATTERS

Food Hygiene Regulations in their application to businesses where these are small household establishments that receive one or two old people, set a problem of interpretation. Boarding Houses are not free from the need to comply. Those who wish their houses registered under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act as Old Persons' Homes with consequential financial benefit to some of the occupants, must also comply, or the County Council will not register them. This is not a matter of choice for the local authority and something that should not be forgotten by the Boarding House keepers.

The tar macadam plant in the harbour continued to rear its ugly head and the very dry summer did nothing to settle the dust problem.

The harbour has brought to the Public Health Inspectors duties of ship and food inspection that will increase with the harbour's activity, and the inspectors have met the demands with generous service at all times of the week and week-ends.

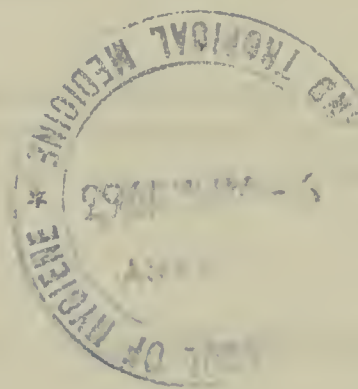
No cases arose under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act requiring an order for removal.

## CONCLUSION

Mr. Whitehouse and his staff have given me most able support and my thanks are expressed to him and the other Chief Officers for their helpful co-operation and to the Members of the Council for their interest and sympathetic ear to public health reports.

Yours obedient servant,

MALCOLM S. HARVEY.



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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

GATE LODGE,

THE CASTLE,

WHITSTABLE

September 1960

To: The Chairman and Members  
of the Whitstable Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work  
of the Department for the year 1959.

Total number of inspections was 5,151, made up as follows:-

Bakehouses	..	..	..	18
Milk Regulations	..	..	..	39
Ice Cream Premises and Sampling	..	..	..	47
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	83
Other Food Shops	..	..	..	172
Cafes, Licensed Premises etc.	..	..	..	79
Food Preparing Rooms	..	..	..	107
Fish Shops	..	..	..	33
Hawkers	..	..	..	34
Dwellinghouses (P.H.A.) 1st Visit	..	..	..	222
Dwellinghouses (P.H.A.) re-visit	..	..	..	149
Dwellinghouses (Housing Act)	..	..	..	154
Overcrowding	..	..	..	3
Insect Pests	..	..	..	71
Camping Sites	..	..	..	256
Refuse Heaps and Accumulations	..	..	..	97
Re-visits	..	..	..	595
Drains Inspected	..	..	..	457
Drains Tested	..	..	..	42
Cesspools	..	..	..	110
Keeping of Animals	..	..	..	48
Air Pollution	..	..	..	86
Rodent Control (Council Premises	..	..	..	44
(Dwelling Houses	..	..	..	608
(Agricultural Premises	..	..	..	14
(Business Premises	..	..	..	82



Port Health	..	..	..	73
Petroleum	..	..	..	72
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	60
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	22
Factories Act	..	..	..	110
Shops Act	..	..	..	138
Water Supplies	..	..	..	80
Unsound Food	..	..	..	95
Bedding and Disinfection	..	..	..	53
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	626
Rent Act	..	..	..	15
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	157

#### NUISANCES ABATED

During the year the following nuisances were abated:-

Roofs repairs	..	..	..	12
Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes				
repaired or renewed	..	..	..	7
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	8
Doors and windows repaired	..	..	..	29
Sinks repaired or renewed	..	..	..	3
Brickwork repaired	..	..	..	8
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	..	..	..	6
Drains relaid or repaired	..	..	..	21
Drains cleared	..	..	..	16
W.C's repaired or renewed	..	..	..	7
Ceiling and wall plaster repaired	..	..	..	27
Rising and/or penetrating damp	..	..	..	24
Water supplies	..	..	..	5
Miscellaneous repairs	..	..	..	47





# H O U S I N G

## Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:-

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)   | 376 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations                         | 12  |
| (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                    | 12  |
| (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 85  |

## Houses in clearance areas and unfit houses elsewhere

### Houses demolished

In Clearance Areas(Housing Act 1957)	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	14	17	6
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(3) Houses in land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	2	15	4
<u>Unfit Houses Closed</u>	Number		
(5) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	2	5	2
(6) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-



Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(8) After informal action by local authority	73	-
(9) After formal notice under -		
(a) Public Health Acts	5	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	1	-
(10) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

Unfit Houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957)

Position at end of year	No. of houses (1)	No. of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation	-	-
(a) Under Section 48	-	-
(b) Under Section 17(2)	-	-
(c) Under Section 46	-	-
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	-	-

Purchase of Houses by agreement

	No. of houses (1)	No. of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders of Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year	-	-

Overcrowding

There were no known cases of statutory overcrowding during or at the end of the year.

NEW HOUSES DURING 1959

(a) Total number of houses erected during 1959	212
(b) Houses erected by Local Authority	48
(c) Houses erected by other persons	164





## RENT ACT

Relatively few enquiries were received in connection with the Rent Act and seemingly tenants and landlords are able to deal with their problems without the intervention of the Council. It has been found, however, that some tenants think that once having had repairs dealt with or not having applied initially they are unable to invoke the Rent Act subsequently.

## FOOD HYGIENE

The approximate number of food premises in the area was 262 comprising 5 bakehouses, 40 cafes, 36 food preparing premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, 95 general food premises and stalls, 42 public houses, 19 butchers' shops and 25 food hawkers registered under the Whitstable U.D.C. Act 1948.

573 Inspections were made of various food establishments with the view of advising and ensuring compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations and other statutory enactments.

15 Samples of foodstuffs were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination.

## MEAT SUPPLIES

There are no private slaughterhouses in the area and no demand for such provision, the Canterbury Public Abattoir having proved adequate to meet Whitstable's needs. Inspections carried out at butchers' shops denote that meat sold is of a satisfactory standard

## UNSOUND FOOD

The following table shows the amount of unsound food voluntarily surrendered for which condemnation certificates were issued. All such food was disposed of at the Council's refuse tip:-

	lbs.
Meat	193
Tinned Meat	697
Fish	793
Tinned Fish	10
Tinned Milk	10
Tinned fruit	191
Miscellaneous	212
Milk	4
	<u>2,110</u>



## MILK SUPPLIES

All milk retailed in the district must be specially designated, that is pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested.

There are 3 registered dairies, at 2 of which are modern pasteurisation plants. An additional improvement during the year was the installation of a new bottle washing machine.

The number of persons who were registered as distributors was 24.

The following annual licences were issued:-

	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
Tuberculin Tested	12	2
Pasteurised	17	2
Sterilised	4	1

23 samples of varying types of milks were taken for examination, including 1 for biological test; all of which were satisfactory.

The facilities at the dairies including cleansing, sterilisation and cold storage have contributed towards these results.

## ICE CREAM

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream was 100. There are now only two premises where ice cream is manufactured compared with the immediate post war figure of 20.

14 samples were submitted for examination which were found to be free from disease producing organisms and which were graded as follows:-

Grade 1	..	10
Grade 2	..	3
Grade 3	..	1





## WATER SUPPLIES

Seven samples of water were taken for bacteriological and two for chemical examination, all being of a satisfactory nature.

The Mid Kent Water Company supplies the Yorkletts area and the remainder of the district is served by the Canterbury and District Water Company. There is a private supply in the Seasalter area which meets the needs of a number of chalets.

Extension of the mains were made as and when necessary for new building development.

## PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Three licences were issued which are subject to recommendations made by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

There are no Rag Flock Manufacturing premises within the district but one factory where filling materials are utilised was registered. No registration is required of premises where remaking or reconditioning is carried out. Most articles bear the British Standards Institution Certificate mark which is indicative of a satisfactory standard.

## PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

36 licences were issued during the year which were subject to conditions recommended by the Home Office. These include provision for testing underground tanks and the observance of a code of conditions in connection with electrically operated pumps. Liaison is maintained with the Kent Fire Brigade and an annual inspection of all premises is made by the Fire Prevention Officer.

## PORT HEALTH

In addition to normal duties in connection with the Public Health Act relating to ships the commencement of importation of food required additional inspections to be carried out to check compliance with the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations.

These Regulations provide for the examination of all foodstuffs and in particular the checking of meat and meat products concerning which particular requirements are in force.





## SHOPS ACT

A total of 293 general inspections was made of shops in connection with various public health functions when regard would be had to the requirements of the Shops Act. In addition 155 specialised inspections were made for the express purpose of advising on the principal Act and local Orders which relate to seasonal concessions. A précis embodying the main provisions has been prepared which is issued to shopkeepers for their guidance.

A Local Order in force at the beginning of the year under review permitted the sale of a number of articles during the summer months but specifically excluded groceries and other provisions commonly sold in grocers' shops. As a result of pressure brought by the Department to enforce this particular requirements steps to alter the position were made by a section of the trade which was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

A resolution from the Chamber was forwarded to the Council requesting them to grant to local shopkeepers the annual seasonal concession in relation to Sunday trading, under the powers conferred by Section 51 of the Shops Act 1950 and that Schedule 7 of the Act should not be amended by any Order made thereunder.

On the instruction of the Council a poll was held of locally concerned shopkeepers in connection with this proposed amendment which resulted in a two-thirds majority being in favour.

A varying Order was made by the Council and groceries may therefore now be sold on Easter Sunday, Whit Sunday and sixteen consecutive Sundays from the first Sunday in June.

Comparatively few shops remain open until their permitted closing times; those shops that do so being staffed by owner occupiers.

No notices were received under Section 68 relating to the employment of young persons and no legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

This Order requires the licensing of collectors of waste foods who are required to use an approved boiling plant and to conform with certain hygiene practices. Eight Licences were in force in this connection.



## CONTROL OF MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The number of licensed sites during 1959 was 24, providing accommodation for 1,250 caravans and tents and 240 chalets, comprising a total area of 71 acres.

Planning legislation generally controls the siting of the camps and public health legislation controls conditions relating to density, water supply and sanitation. Licences are issued on an annual basis and are subject to various conditions to maintain satisfactory public health standards, not the least of which is one that restricts camping during the winter months.

Detailed inspections were carried out during the season and it was found that generally site operators complied with their licensed conditions. In the case of one contravention it was necessary to institute Court proceedings and a fine was inflicted and an Order made which resulted in compliance.

There was the usual sporadic camping within the "free limit" allowed by the Act which necessitated frequent inspections. There was the usual difficulty for tent campers in that the full quota of movable dwellings on the permanent sites was taken up by caravans, but their stay was usually of such a short duration that no health hazard arose.

A joint meeting between camping site operators, members and officials was held shortly before the season, when matters of policy and various problems were freely discussed and which, it is considered, did much to secure the degree of co-operation that was subsequently given.

## PUBLIC MORTUARY

The Health Department is responsible for the maintenance and supervision of the Public Mortuary, which is situated in Island Wall. The following table gives details of bodies received:-

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Number of bodies admitted:-			
Resident	...	10	9
Non-resident	...	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>
Number of bodies admitted for			
Post Mortem examination	20		
Number of Inquests	4		

### CAUSES OF DEATH

Natural Causes	...	17
Misadventure	...	4







## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

Chemical disinfection is carried out at the Disinfecting Plant, Station Road.

Fifteen rooms were disinfected during the year, together with the following articles:-

Mattresses	19
Pillows	37
Blankets & Sheets	22
Cushions	2
Books	<u>3</u>
	<u>83</u>

## REFUSE COLLECTION

A once weekly collection of domestic refuse throughout the area was carried out by 3 side-loading vehicles, each manned by a driver and 2 loaders.

A separate weekly collection of waste paper was made from business premises whilst domestic salvage was collected concurrently with the refuse in trailers attached to the collecting vehicles.

Trade refuse was also collected for which the Public Health Act requires a charge to be made, the amount received in this connection being £62 5s. 0d. This type of refuse is generally obtained from shopkeepers and small factories, the larger concerns being encouraged to take their own refuse to the tip where facilities are afforded them.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

Disposal is carried out at the Council's Tip off Thanet Way at Yorkletts. The system of controlled tipping is carried out with the aid of a Bristol Angledozer which is most effective in consolidating and sealing.

The picking rights of salvageable material other than waste paper realised £80.

Waste paper salvaged amounted to 67 tons, producing a revenue of £500 14s. 3d.



FACTORIES ACT 1937 TO 1959

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937:-

INSPECTIONS

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	10	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	84	94	9	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	6	-	-
T O T A L S	99	110	11	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	5	5	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	3	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	1	1	-	-	-
T O T A L S:	10	10	-	1	-





FACTORIES ACT CONTD/

OUTWORK

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) apparel) Making etc. Cleaning and Washing	4	-	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL

A considerable amount of the General Assistant's time was taken up in the destruction of rats and mice. He has attended the official training course of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and treatment is carried out on the lines recommended by them.

The sewers are periodically test baited and treated according to the degree of infestation. The infestations are generally light, mainly it is considered because routine treatment does not allow time for a build up.

The statistics overleaf relate to the work carried out during the year :-





RODENT CONTROL (CONTINUED)

	Local Autho- rity (1)	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses) (2)	All Other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3. (4)	Agricul- tural (5)
1. No. of properties in L.A.'s district	31	7,452	1,067	8,550	21
2. No. of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	-	113	13	126	2
(b) Survey	10	52	15	77	19
(c) Otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose	21	30	497	548	3
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	60	613	581	1,254	27
4. No. of properties inspected (in Section (2) which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats - Major	4	1	-	5	-
Rats - Minor	-	110	6	116	3
(b) Mice - Major	-	-	-	-	-
Mice - Minor	-	31	9	40	-
5. No. of infested properties (in Section 4) treated by L.A.	5	142	15	162	2
6. Total treatments carried out (includ- ing re-treatments).	12	149	15	176	3
7. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	7				



## CIVIL DEFENCE

As the Head of the Welfare Section, the Health Inspector is responsible for the organisation and training of the Section, whose functions comprise care of the homeless, billeting, evacuation and emergency feeding. I am indebted to Mrs. J.G. Edmonds, the W.V.S. Organiser, and her Members who form the backbone of the Section and who have carried out their training so assiduously.

## STAFF

The Staff of the Health Department comprises:-

The Chief Public Health Inspector,  
Mr. G.W. Carr, Assistant Public Health Inspector,  
Miss G.M. Lemar, Clerk/Shorthand-typist,  
who succeeded Mrs. J.E. Marshall in April,  
Mr. P. Day, General Assistant,  
who followed Mr.P. Marsh on his retirement in July.

## CONCLUSION

May I conclude by expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support, to Dr. Harvey for his advice and encouragement and to the Chief Officers and their staff for the co-operation always extended.

I would also thank my own staff for their able assistance and the cheerful way in which they carry out their many duties.

I am,

Yours obedient Servant,

F.W.I. WHITEHOUSE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

